

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Satoshi EJIMA and Akihiko HAMAMURA

Rule 53(b) Continuing Application of U.S. Application No.:
08/972,679, filed November 18, 1997

Filed: April 26, 2001

Docket No.: 032436.01

For: INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. The references was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 08/972,679, filed November 18, 1997, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 032436.01		Rule 53(b) Continuing Application of U.S. Application No. 08/972,679, filed November 18, 1999	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Satoshi EJIMA and Akihiko HAMAMURA			
				FILING DATE April 26, 2001			

JC971 U.S. 40
09/842084
04/26/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
		5,648,760	07/15/97	Rajendra KUMAR		
		5,574,569	11/96	UTSUMI et al.		
		5,579,239	11/96	FREEMAN et al.		
		5,732,184	3/98	CHAO et al.		
		5,930,446	7/99	KANDA		
		5,796,428	8/98	MATSUMOTO et al.		
		5,812,736	9/98	ANDERSON		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.